

## Rev. Stevens Retires

**Duxbury Clipper**

June 25, 2003

Duxbury resident Reverend Elizabeth B. Stevens is retiring after working 18 years as the Minister of Religious Education at First Church in Dedham.

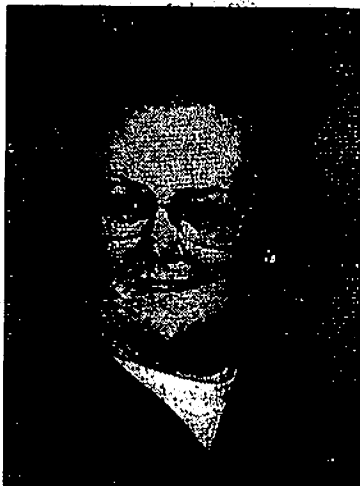
Rev. Stevens has not left the church completely. She will become the Minister Emerita at First Church.

An active resident in Duxbury, she is currently a member of the Council on Aging, and a trustee of the cemetery.

Recently, she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. Betsy told the Dedham Times, "When I first heard about it, I was, to say the least, floored."

Her ministry career began at the Sunday School of Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church in Alexandria, Virginia, and continued there for thirteen years. During that time she became the Director of Religious Education, and as Betsy said, "I've been a provider of education ever since."

Her educational work has been primarily administrative; modifying curriculums, and assigning teachers to classes among other things. She has, in fact, taught mostly adults. One group, in particular was the Cakes for the Queen of Heaven, a women's spirituality group located in Dedham. She received a certificate from the Unitarian Universalist Association in Religious Education, an independent study program, after having worked nine years without one.



**Reverend Elizabeth  
B. Stevens**

The 18-year resident of Duxbury has been involved in Dedham as Minister of Religious Education since her husband retired, and they moved here, where her grandparents and parents also live.

After Betsy's final Sunday at First Church, she concluded, "It was the epitome of coming full circle."